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PLEASE PASS TO AF/W DANA BANKS AND EEB/ESC/IEC/EPC B. GLENN  
GRIFFIN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/21/2017

TAGS: EPET PGOV BN

SUBJECT: BENIN DOES NOT PRACTICE RESOURCE NATIONALISM

REF: STATE 150999

Classified By: Amb. Gayleatha B. Brown for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

Benin does not practice resource nationalism according to the definition provided in reftel. Benin has gold deposits in the north of the country which, in the past, have been exploited by foreign companies. Recent reports indicate that there might be petroleum reserves off of Benin's southern coast. Foreign companies are currently conducting the prospecting for these reserves.

BROWN